

## **NEWS RELEASE**



United States Department of Agriculture
NATIONAL AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS SERVICE
NORTHEASTERN REGIONAL FIELD OFFICE
4050 Crums Mill Rd Suite 203 Harrisburg, PA 17112

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## **USDA TO MEASURE AGRICULTURAL LAND VALUES**

HARRISBURG, PA – Beginning in January, the U.S. Department of Agriculture's National Agricultural Statistics Service will contact farmers and ranchers to gather agricultural land value information for the *Agricultural Land Values* survey. Survey results will help shape Federal and State deliberations on farm programs, may be used by lending agencies, and can also help individual producers determine their net worth.

"Agricultural land values are one of the major indicators of the financial health of the agricultural sector," said NASS' Northeastern Regional Director King Whetstone. "The value of land and buildings accounts for the vast majority of all farm assets." Results of the survey will be released on August 3, 2017.

More than 1,000 farmers will receive the survey forms. The survey data will be combined with information collected during the 2017 June Agricultural Survey, also conducted by NASS.

To make it as easy as possible for producers to participate in the survey, NASS offers the option of responding online via a secure Internet connection, telephone, mail, fax, or a personal interview with a local NASS representative.

"We guarantee confidentiality of all individual information, regardless of the respond method participants choose, as required by federal law," Whetstone said. "NASS will combine your responses with your fellow producers, providing the most comprehensive estimate of U.S. agricultural land values for 2017."

For more information about the *Agricultural Land Values Survey*, call the NASS Northeastern Regional Field Office at (717) 787-3904. All NASS reports and data are available online at www.nass.usda.gov.

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